

Alba International

P.O. Box 111
North Aurora, IL 60542

January 18, 2002

Renata Hesse, Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division, Department of Justice
601 "D" Street N.W., Suite 1200
Washington, D.C. 20530

Via Facsimile
(202) 616-9937

Dear Ms. Hesse:

The public is allowed to comment on the "First Judgement Stipulation and Competitive Impact Statement" in the case of US v. Microsoft. I respectfully request that courts approve of this settlement, thereby ending the case against Microsoft and allowing them to get back to business.

As to the case, I don't think Microsoft is a monopoly for a few different reasons:

Microsoft currently has ninety percent of market in operating systems. Yet that number decreases each year. Linux and open source software command more market share with each generation of new computer users. I believe Microsoft's dominance is not a result of monopolistic ways, but rather of providing the most simple version of a complex product. As consumers become more sophisticated, Microsoft will continue to lose market share. But don't punish Microsoft because people choose their product.

Even though Microsoft has a large share of the market, consumers are not harmed by pricing or service. The relative price of Windows right now is less than one fifth the price of an operating system in 1989. By definition, a monopoly harms consumers with unfair pricing. In addition, Microsoft maintains the highest standards in customer service and continues to bring innovative products to market. These are also contrary to traditional monopolistic practices.

Whatever the issues, the government has dealt with them in the settlement. Therefore, please support the settlement.

Sincerely,



Bob Arundale
Vice President